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Serial No. 09/422,593
Docket No. BO999028
Firm No. 0036.0043

REMARKS

In the Final Office Action, the Examiner allowed claims 7-9, 20-22, 25, 33-35, and 38, rejected claims 1, 2, 4-6, 13-15, 17-19, 26-28, 30-32, and 39, and found that claims 3, 10, 11, 16, 23, 24, 29, 36, and 37 would be allowed if written in independent form including the requirements of the base and intervening claims.

Applicants canceled rejected claims 1, 2, 14, 15, 27, and 28.

Applicants amended allowable claims 3, 16, and 29 to be in independent form and include the requirements of the base and intervening claims 1 and 2; 14 and 15; and 27 and 28, respectively.

Applicants amended allowable claims 10, 23, and 36 to be in independent form and include the requirements of the base claims 1, 14, and 27.

Applicants amended the dependency of claim 4-6, 13, 17-19, 26, 30-32, and 39 to depend from one of the claims in condition for allowance.

Claims 11, 24, and 37 are in condition for allowance because they depend from claims which are now in condition for allowance.

For all the above reasons, Applicant submits that the pending claims 3-13, 16-26, and 29-39 are patentable over the art of record. Applicants submit herewith fees for the claim amendments and a one-month extension of time. Nonetheless, should any additional fees be required, please charge Deposit Account No. 50-0563.

The attorney of record invites the Examiner to contact him at (310) 553-7977 if the Examiner believes such contact would advance the prosecution of the case.

Dated: April 23, 2004

By: _____

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